

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:674

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2003

STORING AND TRANSPORTING OF EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS

SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any mechanism for monitoring the storing and transporting of explosive material across the country for various purposes including quarrying;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the fresh steps taken by the Government to bring suitable amendments to the Indian Explosives Act in order to check falling of explosive material in wrong hands?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(Shri CH. Vidyasagar Rao)

(a) & (b) : Storage and transportation of explosives are regulated under the Explosives Rules 1983, which are implemented by the Department of Explosives. As per Rule 32 of the Explosives Rules 1983 'No person shall transport explosives except under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence granted under these rules.' As per the rules 113 of the Explosives Rules 1983 'No person shall possess or sell or use any explosive except under and in accordance with a licence granted under these rules.' As per the condition of the licence, every licensee has to submit to the licensing authorities as well as renewal authorities at the end of every month a return in Form No. 36 showing receipts and issue of explosive so as to reach the above authorities by 10th day of the succeeded month.

In addition to the Chief Controller of Explosives, under Rule 179 of the Explosives Rules 1983, local district and police authorities and Chief Inspector of Mines are also empowered to enter, inspect and examine any place in which an explosive is being manufactured, used, possessed, sold, transported, exported or imported under a licence granted under these Rules. These authorities are also empowered to seize, detain and remove any explosive found therein together with connected documents thereof in respect of which they have reason to believe that any of the provisions of the Act or Rules have been contravened.

(c) Does not arise

(d) The Government has introduced a specific licence for possession and transport of explosives in compressor mounted motor truck/tractor for use in well sinking. The licence holder has to maintain records of purchase and use of explosives in well sinking operations and the same is to be monitored by the District Magistrates. The Department of Explosives has also issued instructions for provision of two armed guards in each explosive van transporting explosives.